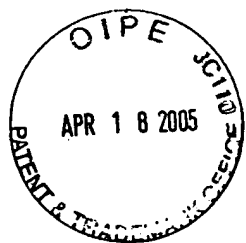


IFW/B



T.J. Gabara 80

CONFIRMATION NO. 4086  
DATE OF NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE: April 5, 2005  
SERIAL NO. 09/870,436

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Patent Application**

Applicant(s): Thaddeus J. Gabara  
Case: 80  
Serial No.: 09/870,436 ✓  
Filing Date: May 30, 2001  
Group: 2816  
Examiner: Hai L. Nguyen

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  
Signature: Lisa L. Vulpis Date: April 14, 2005

Title: Comparator Circuits Having Non-Complementary  
Input Structures

---

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

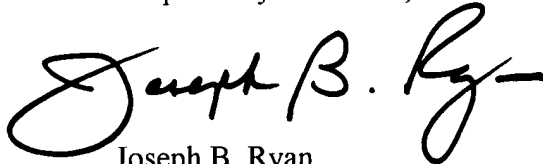
Sir:

Submitted herewith are the following documents relating to the above-identified patent application:

- (1) Transmittal of Formal Drawings;
- (2) Thirty-two (32) Sheets of Formal Drawings; and
- (3) Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

It is believed that there is no additional fee due in conjunction with this response. In the event of any non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **Ryan, Mason & Lewis Deposit Account No. 50-0762** as required to correct the error.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph B. Ryan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Date: April 14, 2005

Joseph B. Ryan  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 37,922  
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP  
90 Forest Avenue  
Locust Valley, NY 11560  
(516) 759-7517



T.J. Gabara 80

CONFIRMATION NO. 4086  
DATE OF NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE: April 5, 2005  
SERIAL NO. 09/870,436

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Patent Application**

Applicant(s): Thaddeus J. Gabara  
Case: 80  
Serial No.: 09/870,436  
Filing Date: May 30, 2001  
Group: 2816  
Examiner: Hai L. Nguyen

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature: *David L. Vulpis*

Date: April 14, 2005

Title: Comparator Circuits Having Non-Complementary  
Input Structures

---

**TRANSMITTAL OF FORMAL DRAWINGS**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

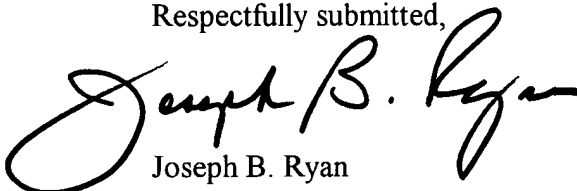
Attention: Official Draftsperson

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability mailed April 5, 2005 in the above-referenced application, Applicant submits herewith thirty-two (32) sheets of formal drawings. Please note that these formal drawings were previously filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 22, 2001. However, the Notice of Allowability indicates acceptance of the informal

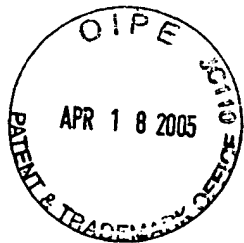
drawings filed on May 30, 2001, and fails to acknowledge the previously-filed formal drawings.  
Approval and entry of the formal drawings are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph B. Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Date: April 14, 2005

Joseph B. Ryan  
Reg. No. 37,922  
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
90 Forest Avenue  
Locust Valley, NY 11560  
(516) 759-7517



T.J. Gabara 80

CONFIRMATION NO. 4086  
DATE OF NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE: April 5, 2005  
SERIAL NO. 09/870,436

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Patent Application**

Applicant(s): Thaddeus J. Gabara  
Case: 80  
Serial No.: 09/870,436  
Filing Date: May 30, 2001  
Group: 2816  
Examiner: Hai L. Nguyen

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature: *Lisa L. Tulpin* Date: April 14, 2005

Title: Comparator Circuits Having Non-Complementary  
Input Structures

---

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance (hereinafter "Statement") included in the Notice of Allowability dated April 5, 2005 in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

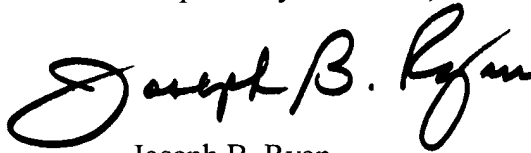
Applicant has reviewed the Statement as given on pages 3-4 of the Notice of Allowability. Based on this review, it appears that certain portions of the Statement may be viewed as mischaracterizing the actual limitations of the allowed claims.

By way of example, the Statement includes, in the last two paragraphs on page 3, a reference to FIG. 11 and recitations of certain reference numerals, such as 210, 220, M3 and M4. Applicant initially would like to point out that the arrangement shown in FIG. 11 is simply one example of an illustrative embodiment of the invention. The claims should not be construed as requiring the particular configuration shown in FIG. 11, or any other particular configuration illustrated in the drawings. Also, certain of the reference numerals, such as reference numerals 210 and 220, do not even appear in FIG. 11, nor do they seem to appear anywhere else in the present application. It is believed to be improper for the Examiner to incorporate these and other reference numerals, and related descriptive language, into the Statement.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner, in attempting to paraphrase the claimed invention, has introduced language into the Statement that does not accurately reflect the actual claim language.

Applicant believes that each of the claims is allowable because the particular limitations thereof are not taught or suggested by the art of record. To the extent that the Statement includes language which deviates from the actual language used in the particular limitations of these claims, language which refers to illustrative embodiments of the invention, or language which characterizes the prior art in a manner inconsistent with the positions of Applicant, the Statement is respectfully traversed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph B. Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" being more prominent and the last name "Ryan" following in a similar style.

Date: April 14, 2005

Joseph B. Ryan  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 37,922  
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP  
90 Forest Avenue  
Locust Valley, NY 11560  
(516) 759-7517